



County of Los Angeles
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June 16, 2008

To: Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich
From: 
William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

MOTION TO SUPPORT SB 1407 (PERATA) RELATED TO COURT FACILITY FINANCING (ITEM NO. 76-B, AGENDA OF JUNE 17, 2008)

Item No. 76-B, on the June 17, 2008 Agenda, is a motion by Supervisor Knabe to support SB 1407 (Perata), send letters to Governor Schwarzenegger and the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation urging support for SB 1407, and instructing our Sacramento advocates to pursue enactment of this legislation.

SB 1407, as amended on May 27, 2008, would authorize the issuance of up to \$5 billion in lease revenue bonds for purposes of financing the planning, design, construction, rehabilitation, renovation, replacement, leasing or acquisition of State trial court facilities. SB 1407 would authorize increases to penalties and fees as revenue sources for the bonds. The bill would amend the Uniform Civil Fees and Standard Fee Schedule Act of 2005 to increase fees and penalties, in amounts ranging from \$2 to \$40, for various programs and circumstances including criminal convictions, traffic offenses, and the Traffic Violator School fee. A portion of the proceeds from these increases and surcharges would be deposited into a new account, the Immediate and Critical Needs Account (ICNA), within the State Court Facilities Construction Fund (SCFCF). The balance of the proceeds would be deposited directly to the SCFCF. The Judicial Council of California would be responsible for making recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature for projects funded by the ICNA.

CEO Facility and Asset Management staff indicates that while SB 1407 would not directly impact County operations, the residents of Los Angeles County would benefit by providing the State with an additional source of revenue to address critical courthouse construction and maintenance needs.

The State Legislative Agenda includes policies to support measures which would increase the State's participation in trial court funding through the assumption of responsibility for financing court facility construction and maintenance. In addition, your Board has supported funding through the State Budget process for projects related to specific courthouse facilities within Los Angeles County. However, there is no policy to support funding for court facilities through increases in various fees and penalties. **Therefore, support of SB 1407 is a matter of Board policy determination.**

SB 1407 is supported by the Judicial Council of California. There is no known opposition at this time. SB 1407 passed the Senate on May 29, 2008 on a vote of 28 to 8. This measure is set for hearing on Tuesday, June 17, 2008 in the Assembly Judiciary Committee.

WTF:GK
MAL:DD:mp

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel